

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the application.

Claim 3 was objected to for informalities. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9, 10, 12-16, 181, 20, 21 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Havansi (U.S. 5,905,714). Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Havansi with Araujo (U.S. 6,118,785).

Claims 3, 7, 8, 11, 17, 22 and 23 were deemed to recite allowable subject matter.

To expedite prosecution of the application and without acquiescing to the rejections, the claims have been rewritten to place the allowable subject matter in proper form for allowance. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the rejected claims in a continuation.

Information Disclosure Statement

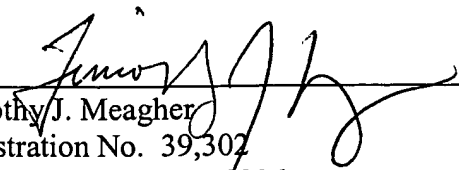
A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed concurrently herewith. Entry of the IDS is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

By 
Timothy J. Meagher
Registration No. 39,302
Telephone: (978) 341-0036
Facsimile: (978) 341-0136

Concord, MA 01742-9133

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